

Johnson, Franklin Jr.

Nov, Dec 1915
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39

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
TORONTO

DIRECTOR
FRANKLIN JOHNSON, JR., M.A., PH.D., LL.B.

SECRETARY
EDWARD A. BOTT, B.A.

November 24th, 1915.

President Robert A. Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto.

Dear President Falconer,

I beg to bring to your notice a matter which calls for immediate attention in connection with the Department of Social Service. When fitting up the present building for the use of this Department last spring, I had in mind the use of the third floor for purposes of clinical and other lines of mental investigation, as conducted in other institutions of Social Instruction, for the purposes of instruction of students, and also for serving the needs of this city. Owing, however, to dividing the building appropriation in half that plan was deferred.

At the present time, however, the need of opening such a mental clinic in Toronto has become so urgent that it is only a question of who shall undertake it. For example; the Board of Education, particularly, wishes immediate assistance in the examination of backward children, and has plans which necessitate this work at once. Dean Clarke urgently requests a social service clinic to supplement his work in his psychological clinic at the Toronto General Hospital. He further tells me on the part of the medical profession and the Board of Education, in the city, that if the University cannot immediately undertake such work in this field, it must be done elsewhere. It is because of these imperative reasons that I wish to call the matter to your urgent attention at the present time.

I feel that the University ought not to lose this important work, so necessary both to the City, and to the Social Service Department. This building has adequate space upon the third floor for opening this work, and both in accommodation and location it is satisfactory. It will require only a very small expenditure, as mentioned later, to fit up the rooms for occupation. In regard to the matter of operation; in addition to our present staff, I am assured by Dean Clarke and others personally of the services of the best men for such purposes in the City, without any compensation.

The clinic will cost nothing for salaries or for operating expenses.

The Superintendent of Buildings estimates the cost of preparing the rooms by cleaning, lighting and heating, at the outside

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sum of \$140. The cost of equipment, including furniture, apparatus, and supplies, with which this work might start, I would estimate at \$150. There will be no other expenses for instituting it.

If this meets with your approval, I shall be glad to have you take such steps as may be necessary to allow the work to proceed immediately, if the University is to undertake it at all.

Enclosed is a more detailed memorandum for your consideration.

Most sincerely yours,

Franklin Johnson, Jr.

FJ/MMcD.

MENTAL CLINIC.

Social Service Department.

WORK OF THE CLINIC.

The general work of this clinic will be the careful examination and investigation of selected cases referred to it, or chosen by it. It will require both mental testing and investigating of the case histories. The clinic will handle a small number of selected cases, giving sufficient time to each case to make a thorough examination.

No institution exists in Toronto for performing this work. The Toronto General Hospital clinic cannot do it, for it must handle a large volume of cases in a very rapid way. It urgently needs and requests the Social Service clinic to supplement its work.

NEED.

The clinic is needed for;

1. Student training. It will enable the training of students in this field of social work. In addition to the Social Service students, Dr. Clarke may wish to use it for selected medical students. The Faculty of Education may also make certain use of it for some of their students.
2. Relation to City. Investigation of cases referred to it from city institutions.
 - a) The Toronto General Hospital Clinic desires to send at once selected cases to this clinic; the first acting as a clearing house and referring cases to the latter for more prolonged and careful examination.
 - b) The Public School system will also make use of this clinic for the purpose of testing selected for school purposes. The Board of Education expects to open a special work for feeble minded in Toronto, located probably in the old Technical School building on College St. This will require, when opened, a mental clinic to operate jointly with it. The Social Service clinic will be assured of this cooperation.
 - c) Examination of cases referred to it from other city institutions.
3. Research. It will conduct research and investigation of social problems of mental abnormality. Most important and valuable research work can be done, and there are many of these problems calling for investigation.

IMMEDIATE URGENCY.

It must be established now, or it will be lost to the University of Toronto. Such a clinic will be established outside of the University, if not at once instituted. The Board of Education will institute one, if we do not at once. The members of the Medical Association are also considering such a plan.

STAFF.

The clinic will require only a small staff. It will be largely assisted by the students of the Social Service Department. The best services in the city for such work are available to take charge of its different operations. Members of the Medical Association will also be glad to serve; and the Toronto General Hospital will be willing to be of any assistance desired.

COST OF OPERATION.

The clinic will cost nothing for salaries, or for operating expenses. Those desired to assist in its work will gladly render all services possible without compensation. The only cost will be a negligible expense for light and heating.

COST OF ESTABLISHING.

- a). Small expense for fitting up top floor of building. The estimate of the Superintendent of Buildings is \$138. at the outside.
- b). A small amount not to exceed \$150 will furnish equipment to start the work.

December 15th, 1915

Dr. Franklin Johnson,
8 Queen's Park,
Toronto.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

I will bring to the attention of the Board
your recommendation that the fee of one dollar be charged to
those students of the Dominion Council Y.W.C.A. who are taking
part of their training in the Department of Social Service.

Yours sincerely,

President.